

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action mailed June 30, 2006 in the above-identified application. A one-month extension of time for response is requested and the required fee is enclosed.

The Examiner has issued a restriction requirement as follows:

Group 1: Claims 1-2 and 6-9 drawn to an α -interferon and

Group 2: Claims 3-5 and 10 drawn to the α -interferon encoding DNA, an expression vector and a method of producing the α -interferon.

In response, Applicants elect to prosecute of Group I, Claim 1-2 and 6-9 in the present application, with traverse. Applicants request that Claims 3-5 and 10 be withdrawn from consideration at this time. Applicants expressly reserve the right to file the subject matter of the non-elected Claims (3-5 and 10) in a further divisional application.

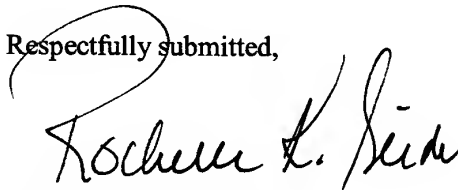
In traversing the restriction requirement, Applicants maintain that a search of all of the claims would not be a burden, since the same search terms – e.g., “interferon” and “glycosylation” would be required for both the protein and its encoding DNA. Also, there is a well-known relationship between a polypeptide and its encoding DNA, rendering these molecules part of the same patentable invention.

In view of these remarks, Applicants request that the restriction requirement be withdrawn.

Appln. No. 10/653,350
Reply to Office action of June 30, 2006
Response dated August 30, 2006

A one-month extension of time for response is respectfully requested. Payment of the extension fee is to be made by Credit Card. Applicants believe that no additional fees are required in connection with this response. However, if additional fees are required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional payment, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 01-2300, **referencing Docket Number 027707.00017.**

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Rochelle K. Seide". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The first name "Rochelle" is written in a larger, more prominent script, while "K. Seide" is written in a smaller, more compact script. The signature is positioned above a horizontal line.

Rochelle K. Seide, Ph.D.
Registration No. 32,300
ARENT FOX PLLC
1675 Broadway
New York, NY 10019
Tel. No. (212) 484-3945
Fax No. (212) 484-3990
Customer No. 38485